

Appl. No. 10/780,028
Amdt. dated December 22, 2006
Reply to O.A. of October 4, 2006

PATENT
Docket No. J-3705

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In the non-final Office action dated October 4, 2006, claims 1-19 and 40-52 were rejected. In this Amendment, claim 1 is amended, claims 9-19 and 40-51 are canceled, and claims 53-82 are added, thereby leaving claims 1-8 and 52-82 pending and at issue in the present application.

Claims 1-8 and 52 stand rejected as indefinite. The undersigned thanks the examiner for indicating the allowability of claim 1, and claims 2-8 and 52 dependent thereon, if claim 1 is rewritten to overcome the indefiniteness rejection.

Although applicant maintains the arguments stated previously with respect to claims 9-19 and 40-51, such claims have been canceled in order to expedite the prosecution of the present application.

Applicant traverses the rejection of claims 1-8 and 52 as indefinite and request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection in light of amended claim 1. Specifically, claim 1 has been amended in accordance with the examiner's suggestion to change the term "pedestal" to "lobe" in line 8, thereby obviating the basis of the pending indefiniteness rejection and placing claims 1-8 and 52 (and new claims 53-82 that are directly or indirectly dependent on claim 1) in position for immediate allowance, notice of which is respectfully requested.

Application also submits that no new matter has been added by the amended or added claims. Support for new claims 53-82 can be found at least at the following locations:

- for claim 53, see paragraph 40;
- for claim 54, see paragraph 40;
- for claim 55, see paragraph 40;
- for claim 56, see paragraph 42;
- for claim 57, see paragraph 32 and FIG. 4 at 10;
- for claim 58, see paragraph 30;
- for claim 59, see paragraph 32;
- for claim 60, see paragraph 32;
- for claim 61, see paragraph 27;
- for claim 62, see paragraph 27;

Appl. No. 10/780,028
Amdt. dated December 22, 2006
Reply to O.A. of October 4, 2006

PATENT
Docket No. J-3705

for claim 63, see paragraph 39;
for claim 64, see paragraph 39;
for claim 65, see paragraph 41;
for claim 66, see paragraph 41;
for claim 67, see paragraph 41;
for claim 68, see paragraph 44;
for claim 69, see paragraph 45;
for claim 70, see paragraph 49;
for claim 71, see paragraph 49;
for claim 72, see paragraph 49;
for claim 73, see paragraph 32;
for claim 74, see paragraph 32;
for claim 75, see paragraph 32;
for claim 76, see paragraph 36;
for claim 77, see paragraph 36;
for claim 78, see paragraph 36;
for claim 79, see paragraph 51;
for claim 80, see paragraph 36;
for claim 81, see paragraph 16; and
for claim 82, see paragraph 52 and the Table.

Appl. No. 10/780,028
Amdt. dated December 22, 2006
Reply to O.A. of October 4, 2006

PATENT
Docket No. J-3705

All outstanding rejections having been fully addressed herein, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of the claims at issue and issuance of a Notice of Allowance are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

McCracken & Frank LLP
200 W. Adams
Suite 2150
Chicago, IL 60606
Telephone: (312) 263-4700
Facsimile: (312) 263-3990
Customer No.: 29471

Date: December 22, 2006

By: 

John E. Conour, Ph.D.
Reg. No. 59,054